

1047 US 127 SOUTH FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601-1975

Steven L. Beshear, Governor

Larry L. Roberts, Secretary

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Contact: Daniel Lowry 502.564.3219

502.545.9089



NRE Paducah Earns Governor's Safety and Health Award for Second Year in a Row

Employees work more than a million hours without a lost-time incident

PADUCAH, Ky. (Dec. 10, 2014) – Deputy Secretary Rocky Comito of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet joined employees and officials in Paducah today to present the employees of NRE Paducah with the Governor's Safety and Health Award. The honor recognizes approximately 205 employees for working more than a million hours without a lost-time accident or illness.

"There's no doubt that NRE Paducah is on the right track when it comes to safety," said Kentucky Labor Secretary Larry L. Roberts. "It's even more impressive when you consider this is the second year in a row that the company has earned this award."

A subsidiary of global locomotive manufacturer NRE Global Holdings since July 2002, NRE Paducah has been an active employer in Paducah since 1925. The company, which formerly used the name VMV Paducahbilt, builds and rebuilds locomotives and locomotive products at its 110-acre facility on Kentucky Avenue. In the past year, the company has expanded its operations by adding jobs, making repairs to the facility, installing new equipment and performing technological upgrades.

"NRE Paducah and its employees have been a flagship of NRE Global Holdings since we purchased it in 2002," said NRE President and CEO Steven Beal. "We are extremely proud of this great achievement and will continue to strive to improve its operations and safety records as we move forward. Congratulations to the entire team in Paducah."

The workers of NRE Paducah aren't just employees, they are also owners of the company. NRE Paducah has an employee stock ownership plan, meaning its employees are 100 percent owners. The employees are also organized in the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) Local 123.

The Kentucky Labor Cabinet presents the Governor's Safety and Health Award in recognition of outstanding safety and health performance. An establishment may qualify for the award if its employees together achieve a required number of hours worked without experiencing a lost-time injury or illness. The required number of hours is dependent upon the number of employees. In the case of NRE Paducah, the requirement is 500,000.

The Governor's Safety and Health Award program is part of Gov. Steve Beshear's efforts to improve the health of all Kentuckians. The Governor launched kyhealthnow in February as an aggressive and wide-ranging initiative to significantly reduce incidents and deaths from Kentucky's dismal health rankings and habits. It builds on Kentucky's successful implementation of health care reform and uses multiple strategies over the next several years to improve the state's collective health.

Every establishment within the geographical boundaries of Kentucky is eligible, even if the establishment won the award the previous year. Eligibility is limited to one award during a 12-month period of time.

The award is a certificate mounted on a wooden plaque. The certificate contains the signatures of Kentucky Gov. Beshear, Secretary Roberts and Department of Workplace Standards Commissioner Anthony Russell.

For more on the Governor's Safety and Health Award, and for a list of past winners, click <u>here</u>.

For more on NRE Paducah, visit www.nationalrailway.com.

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The Kentucky Labor Cabinet's primary responsibility is to ensure that divisions and offices falling under the auspices of the Cabinet work within the jurisdiction of Kentucky labor law to ensure equitable and fair treatment of the Commonwealth's nearly 1.9

million wage-earning employees. The Cabinet, according to regulation, has the duties, responsibilities, power, and authority relating to labor, wage and hour issues, occupational safety and health of employees, child labor, apprenticeship, workers' compensation insurance, and all other matters under the jurisdiction of the Labor Cabinet. For more information, visit www.labor.ky.gov/.

